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COLOMBIA'S BARCO ADDRESSES ANDEAN PARLIAMENT

PA162308 Bogota Inravisión Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0229 GMT 15 Mar 87

[Speech by Colombian President Virgilio Barco Vargas at the Sixth Regular Meeting of the Andean Parliament in Bogota -- live or recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Excerpts] ...I want to offer my welcome greetings to the congressmen who represent the popular will of countries with which we maintain links of cordial friendship [words indistinct] Colombia on occasion of the Sixth Regular Meeting of the Andean Parliament. [passage omitted]

[Words indistinct] greater negotiation capability. That is essential if we want our opinion to be taken into consideration [words indistinct] are ways to adjust ourselves to the changing situations of our countries' economies and the world economy in order to maintain our current, vigorous integration project.

Within this continuous effort of our people, the Andean Parliament is an institutional innovation created to give a political and popular dimension to the integration effort. It is the way to democratize a process that requires the commitment of all people. Parliaments are the natural forums where differing and similar views are aired; they make our societies and the integration process, which requires this dynamism, come alive. As I said concerning the National Congress, I must say that it is advisable that the Andean Parliament be given the preeminence it deserves because it is comprised of representatives freely elected by the people.

They represent all political forces and thus, because of its nature, this is the appropriate institution in which public issues can be properly vented and differing views reconciled to reach agreements.

Domestically, parliaments are the most authentic expression of political life, but in the broadest sense they also serve international cooperation by clarifying positions, promoting agreements, and pointing to new paths.

If the executive branch is obliged to take action, govern, and lead international relations, the parliament can easily help, through its permanent contact with the people, and reinforce the scope and efficiency of government actions. That is the case of the European Parliament, whose members are now directly elected in each country of that community. On the agenda of this sixth Andean Parliament meeting, we have included issues currently very important to our people.

The struggle against drug trafficking, which will be examined by the first commission, is not a matter that exclusively concerns the governments. Instead, it requires the active participation of all social organizations. It cannot be a solitary struggle by one country. Instead, it must be a process that includes the solidarity of all the countries that see their human reserves and their moral and institutional stability threatened by the criminal scourge of the drug trade and consumption.

The contributions that you parliamentarians can provide to make this commitment more effective are unquestionably necessary and welcomed. The analysis of the report on the Rodrigo Lara Bonilla Memoir will be of special importance in order to gather information in the struggle against crime. It is time that the entire international community commit itself to this task and that once and for all we deal with the root of the problem.

The topics given to the second commission -- the discussion of the process of Andean subregional integration and the protocol modifying the Cartagena Agreement -- will contribute to define the scope of the current circumstances because they are the framework in which international economic and financial relations must develop in order to overcome the lengthy crisis affecting the economies of many of our countries and to adapt the Andean institutions to the significant changes that have taken place in the regional economy.

In my speech opening the latest annual joint meeting of the IDB and the World Bank, I had the opportunity to emphasize the inevitable and necessary solidarity that links the international financial system.

This solidarity is essential among neighbors because proximity makes more perceptible the movements and fluctuations of the economies, and more severe the effects of the setbacks of successes. [passage omitted]

The Lima communique issued by the foreign minister, ministers, and chiefs of delegations of Latin America and the Caribbean in the 12th Ordinary Meeting of the SELA, and the OAS resolution in the 8th Plenary Session of the 1986 General Assembly, contain elements that must necessarily be analyzed and implemented if we want to establish a common position on the most notorious, distressing, and persistent social phenomenon: abject poverty. Our countries cannot exclude more than half of their peoples from the essential resources necessary to have an honorable and productive life in society. [passage omitted]

The issues under your consideration are totally related to the historic moments being experienced by Colombia where the government, through the people's mandate, has begun a deep political, social, and economic transformation. We are committed to injecting renewed vigor to our institutions and to protecting the opposition's legal and legitimate activities.

We will soon begin the process of popular elections of mayors, a change that will have deep repercussions on our political behavior, the functioning of the parties, and the role of citizens with regard to the handling of affairs that are their utmost concern.

Simultaneously, we are advancing the process of administrative decentralization which will contribute to reinforce the people's participation and therefore, the citizens' responsibility in the administration of public affairs. These initiatives and many others that complement them and that tend to make the more effective constitute new institutional forms of political expression, which improve our democracy, considering more the desires of all the citizens.

I am pleased to note the progress made by the Andean Parliament in its short existence. This shows both its members' interest in democratizing the integration process as well as the maturity of the institutions we want to defend and promote. To the extent that these are consolidated because there is expansion of our people's participation in deciding their own destiny, our political systems will have greater stability. This stability will be the result of popular support and not of force.

Messrs Congressmen: The Colombian Government will be attentive to the result of your deliberation and I hope that they will be completely successful in benefitting our sister peoples. Thank you very much.

PERUVIAN FORCES CAPTURE 'ALFARO LIVES' LEADERS

PA162053 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1938 GMT 14 Mar 87

[Text] Quito, 14 Mar (DPA) -- Today, the Ecuadoran police confirmed the arrest of two top leaders of the subversive "Alfaro Lives" group "somewhere in Peru." With this action, the leadership of the rebel group has been virtually dismantled. According to Quito's HOY newspaper, which cited Ecuadoran police sources, Edgar Frias and Justina Casco, who had become leaders of the movement late last year following the death of three rebel leaders, were arrested "by Peruvian security forces approximately 10 days ago." The newspaper added that the rebels' extradition is being negotiated so that they can be tried for crimes they are accused of committing in Ecuadoran territory.

With the arrest of Frias and Casco, the "Alfaro Lives" group is now almost leaderless following the deaths of Arturo Jarrin, Hamet Vasconez, and Fausto Bazantes, the three top leaders of the rebel movement, in clashes with the police. Only one of the members of the rebel leadership is still at large; she is Rosa Cardenas. "Alfaro Lives" together with the Colombian "M-19" group, and the Peruvian "Shining Path," make up the so-called "America Battalion" which was very active in southern Colombia in 1984 and 1985 and which is reportedly now in Peru.

UNCTAD 'FIRMLY' SUPPORTED AT SAN JOSE MEETING

PA182314 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0037 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] San Jose, 17 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- During today's Latin American coordination meeting, UNCTAD was firmly backed as a multilateral political forum to deal with trade problems. Sources at the meeting pointed out that there is a consensus to regard UNCTAD as a political negotiating forum to consider the world economy and the participation of developing countries. Sebastian Allegretti, permanent secretary of the Latin American Economic System, SELA, who attended the meeting today, has said that the support of nearly 100 delegates of 25 member countries is important for carrying out negotiations with the "wealthy" nations. He added: UNCTAD's recent paralyzation or inactivity is because some industrialized countries doubt that SELA can represent them during the negotiation of accords.

The Costa Rica meeting will open at the ministerial level on Thursday. Representatives of the SELA member countries' foreign, trade, and economy ministers will also attend. Today's session began with an analysis of the working documents presented by the permanent secretariat and the committee to prepare for the Group of the 77's ministers meeting. These documents deal with the seventh UNCTAD meeting agenda. Highlights in this session's agenda include international trade, the problem of financial resources for development, the shortage of basic products, and the undeveloped countries' situation. As part of this agenda, efforts will be made during the Wednesday session to identify Latin America's priorities in order to draft proposals that encompass the continent. Whatever is approved during this meeting will serve as a working paper for the Group of the 77's ministers meeting scheduled to be held in Havana in April. Out of the Havana meeting will come the Third World's common platform for UNCTAD's seventh meeting to seek an international consensus for trade and development through multilateral cooperation. The seventh UNCTAD conference will be held in Geneva, Switzerland in April. The deliberations are taking place at a hotel on the outskirts of San Jose. Costa Rica presides over the meeting, Cuba, Colombia, Guatemala, and Brazil act as vice presidents, and Jamaica acts as rapporteur.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON FRG PRESIDENT'S VISIT

Alfonsin Meeting Detailed

PY181251 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0006 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Mar (TELAM) -- FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker said that the Argentine Government's policy of stability is well received in Europe. He also told President Raul Alfonsin that under his administration Argentina assumed a decisive role in development, thus contributing greatly to Latin American democratization.

According to Friedbert Pfluger, spokesman of the FRG delegation, Weizsaecker made these statements during a meeting with President Alfonsin in Government House this afternoon. Pfluger, together with Argentine Presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez, met the media in the Government House press room.

The FRG spokesman said that Weizsaecker was very impressed with the friendly attitude and the manner in which the problems were addressed, and added that democracy has made considerable progress in Latin America in the last 10 years.

He also said that, under Alfonsin's administration, Argentina has assumed a decisive role in development, and that the wave of democratization in Latin America has strengthened European confidence in it. However, he noted that democracy also needs social and economic achievements.

The FRG president cited Alfonsin's stabilization policy, which is well received in Europe, and as a sign of this confidence he noted the DM 300-million increase in FRG guarantees for credits, as discussed during the meeting held between the two presidents yesterday.

Pfluger said that the two statesmen spoke about relations with private banks, including American ones. They also discussed the Central American situation and East-West relations.

Weizsaecker spoke to Alfonsin about the situation of the Soviet Union, and said that Gorbachev's policy should be taken seriously and not treated as a propaganda maneuver.

Another issue which was discussed was the importance of the human rights situation and its effect on trust between countries. Weizsaecker told Alfonsin that he had met with one of the Plaza de Mayo Mothers and with mothers of missing people of German descent. Finally, Pfluger said that the two presidents ended the interview on a note of confidence and hope for the future.

In turn, Jose Ignacio Lopez said that the private meeting held between the two presidents today contributed to deepening friendship ties and the common understanding of subjects discussed yesterday. He said that the international situation was a main topic of conversation, especially the Soviet Union, since the two presidents evaluated the changes it is undergoing.

Regarding economic issues the two presidents agreed on an evaluation of how certain policies such as the subsidies for agricultural production harm Latin American countries and countries like Argentina.

Lopez said President Alfonsin greatly appreciates the FRG president's comprehension of their analysis of the EEC situation.

The two presidents also agreed on an evaluation of the Latin American situation, and they not only give great importance to peace in the region, but also appreciate the efforts being made by the Contadora Group.

Weizsaecker on Cooperation

PY181717 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2037 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Mar (NA) -- FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker today discouraged any hopes of "an overall solution" to the Latin American foreign debt problem because "it would be unrealistic." He added that future Argentine-FRG commercial cooperation should include food processing, biotechnology, petrochemistry, machine construction and installations.

Speaking before the Argentine-FRG and the Argentine Chambers of Commerce, Weizsaecker said: "It would be useful for each country to implement clear regulations, taking into account the possibilities of each country to resolve its foreign commitments."

Weizsaecker reiterated that his country "will actively and constructively contribute, as it did in 1985, in the future negotiations to consolidate the debt." He said that prospects for growth in the world economy are at stake because of "budget deficits, protectionist pressure and the drastic fall of the dollar" and that "we will all lose if we are not able to dismantle current trade barriers and obstacles."

Weizsaecker indicated that trade and investments between the two countries "have stopped" and that the deficit in the EEC trade balance with Latin America reached DM20 billion in 1985. He said: "I fully understand the Argentine concern which is certainly justified in the face of the EEC protectionist policies on agricultural products and on subsidies. However, I would like to point out a fact that should not be disregarded: The EEC trade balance shows, in comparison with any other region, that its largest deficit is with Latin America."

Weizsaecker said that the current problem is "the heavy burden of the foreign debt" which "undermines the internal stability of Latin American countries, affecting political relations and obstructing trade."

He also praised the economic policies of the Argentine Government although he noted that "the burden of the adjustments should be more justly socially divided because it should not exclusively affect the poorest sectors of the population."

He opposed unilateral policies of export promotions saying that two-thirds of the Argentine exports are based on three agricultural products: oil seeds, meat, and grain. He admitted that it will not be easy for Argentina to change "its entire export structure overnight" but hoped that Argentine-FRG relations will be based on industrial cooperation.

Weizsaecker said that he is pleased that Argentina is promoting industrial integration with Brazil and Uruguay.

Weizsaecker also said that "the transfer of technology is already taking place through several cooperation agreements and license contracts with German companies and through the training of Argentine experts."

Further Report

PY182038 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 18 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] West German President Richard von Weizsaecker yesterday briefed his Argentine colleague Raul Alfonsin on his conversations the same morning with the Mothers of Plaza de Mayo, as well as assuring his host that this economic stability programme enjoyed the confidence of European countries.

The visiting president further told Alfonsin that his election victory in 1983 had triggered the return of democracy throughout Latin America and that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's policies of opening up his country should be taken seriously.

The mothers informed the Christian Democrat politician of the progress of cases concerning the disappearance of Argentines of German origin during the military regime.

Previously during the second day of his visit, Von Weizsaecker met with Vice President Victor Martinez and Lower House Speaker Juan Carlos Pugliese, agreeing on the limitations the payment of interest imposed on economic growth. He also paid a courtesy visit to the Supreme Court. Speaking to Congress, the guest stated "we know economic growth is necessary to strengthen democracy."

CAPUTO COMMENTS ON DEBATE OVER CUBA UN VOTE

PY172122 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1541 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Mar (NA) -- Referring to the debate triggered by the Argentine vote, along with other Latin American countries, against the U.S. request to discuss at the United Nations the condemnation of Cuba for human rights violations, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo affirmed today that "it is always interesting to see that when the United States sneezes, some people catch cold in Argentina."

The foreign minister also said that "there are many in the country today who feign being shocked over the question of human rights," and "I have heard them" denouncing the repressive abuses committed here between 1976-78 during the military regimes.

Caputo also dismissed the interpellation request introduced by Deputy Maria Julia Asogaray of the Democratic Center Union [UCD] by saying that "this is an extremely delicate and important matter which cannot be politically manipulated and used."

He pointed out that "we will never give up independence and autonomy." Caputo added "if some are worried because the Argentine policy follows a zigzag course, it is because our policy sometimes does not side with either Moscow or with Washington, but with Buenos Aires."

In a statement made at the Government House, Caputo noted that the Foreign Ministry has acted with "autonomy" because that is the way to act when "the national interest is to be defended."

Caputo, however, explained that Argentina is not opposed to an investigation of human rights violations in Cuba, as in any other country, and that its attitude at the United Nations was based on a matter of precedents. What happened, he said, is that the United States presented a motion to condemn Cuba, and, in turn, Cuba introduced a motion to condemn the United States. In view of this, India "taking into consideration those antagonistic positions, introduced a motion to act on both proposals."

Caputo, who met today with President Alfonsin as a member of the Exports Committee, recalled that 5 months ago, in the Fifth Commission of Human Rights, of the UN General Assembly, a similar proposal was introduced but that then the positions were different. "At that time," Caputo added, "in view of the position adopted by India, the United States did not consider it a serious matter."

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT CALLS FOR LEGISLATION

PY131922 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 13 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- Central Bank President Jose Luis Machinea yesterday recognized "the fragile state of the (Argentine) financial sector," while expressing concern over "the lack of legislation to punish illegal economic deals."

He also announced that economic authorities will implement measures aimed at reducing the high operational costs of banks, adding that those institutions which did not abide by the regulations would be sanctioned.

Machinea analyzed the situation of the financial system during a four-hour meeting with the Lower House budget committee, which is currently studying the 1987 budget bill.

The president of the Central Bank gave an optimistic outlook of the Argentine economy and praised the results of the Austral Plan. He affirmed that during 1986 "the purchasing power of wages grew, demand rose and the country's economic activity likewise increased."

Machinea revealed that the country's reserves last February 23 mounted to 3.7 billion dollars, but when asked about the amount of funds available from those reserves he answered: "I don't know."

The official pointed out that the government is planning to transfer the 117 banks that are undergoing a liquidation process to the private sector. He added that "rescuing" those entities had cost the state 200 million australs.

As for the operational costs of the financial system, Machinea explained that they amount to an annual 24 percent for provincial banks.

He repeated his concern over the lack of adequate legislation to control illegal economic deals, recalling the Alas bank's alleged 110-million dollars fraud against the Central Bank.

In this regard, Machinea said "that money has not been recovered" and that the case was being handled by the courts.

SARNEY EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER DESTABILIZATION

PY190044 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 12 Mar 87 p 5

[By Flamarion Mossri]

[Excerpt] Brasilia (AGENCIA ESTADO) -- President Jose Sarney thinks there is a movement in Brazil and abroad seeking to destabilize his transition government, and that this movement could have unpredictable consequences. In informal talks held recently with representatives of various political parties at the Constituent Assembly, Sarney also expressed concern about the country's socioeconomic situation, the renegotiation of the foreign debt, and the need to immediately define his term in office.

A Constituent Assembly member who just met with the president thinks that if right-wing and left-wing forces "with the help of some media organizations" succeed in their anti-Sarney campaign, the government to be established in Brazil will be neither democratic nor socialist. He said: "We would have a Pinochet-type regime."

Sarney has been surprised by the position taken by important Brazilian sectors which, in addition to not endorsing or at least understanding his decision to declare a debt moratorium, have persisted in harshly criticizing everything he is doing or trying to do. [passage omitted]

INAUGURATION OF NEW STATE GOVERNORS REPORTED

PY182052 [Editorial Report] Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese on 16 March, pages 2, 6, and 7, reports on the inauguration on 15 March of the new governors of the 23 Brazilian states. The new governors are:

Amazonino Mendes - Amazonas
Helio Gueiros - Para
Epitacio Cafeteira - Maranhao
Alberto Silva -- Piaui
Tasso Jereissati - Ceara
Geraldo Melo - Rio Grande do Norte
Tarcisio Eurity - Paraiba
Miguel Arraes - Pernambuco
Fernando Collor de Mello - Alagoas
Antonio Carlos Valadares - Sergipe
Waldir Pires - Bahia
Max Mauro - Espirito Santo
Wellington Moreira Franco - Rio de Janeiro
Orestes Quercia - Sao Paulo
Alvaro Diaz - Parana
Pedro Simon - Rio Grande do Sul
Newton Cardoso - Minas Gerais

Henrique Santillo - Goias
Carlos Bezerra - Mato Grosso
Marcelo Miranda Soares - Mato Grosso do Sul
Jeronimo Santana - Rondonia
Flaviano Melo - Acre

The daily does not report the inauguration of the new governor of Santa Catarina State.

QUERCIA RULES OUT PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

PY182002 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Excerpt] The following is a summary of the first day of work of the new state governors: Sao Paulo Governor Orestes Quercia yesterday expressed his gratitude to President Jose Sarney and Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes for their support for his candidacy. He said that the success of his administration will be dependent on the Brazilian economy. Quercia made it clear that he will not try to replace Sarney as president and noted that the office set up in Brasilia by the Sao Paulo State Government is designed to provide counsel to congressmen from the state. [passage omitted]

EX-MINISTER SAYAD APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO EEC

PY182318 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Former Planning Minister Joao Sayad will be the next Brazilian ambassador to the EEC, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium. Sayad confirmed his acceptance of the appointment made by President Jose Sarney.

Joao Sayad returned to Planalto Palace today to say farewell to President Sarney. This afternoon, he traveled to Sao Paulo. Sayad will return to Brasilia to hand over his post to the new planning minister.

CUBAN SCIENTISTS VISIT VACCINE-MAKING FACILITIES

PY190110 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Mar 87 p 13

[Text] A group of Cuban scientists is visiting Brazil for the first time to tour facilities that manufacture vaccines and serums. The Scientific Investigations Center of Cuba [CICC] is preparing to supply that country with immunobiological material. According to the physicians, biochemists, and architects who comprise the delegation, the CICC is running into great difficulties, and its technology is insufficient to meet the demand for such material.

Early this month, the group visited the Fiocruz Laboratories in Rio de Janeiro. In Sao Paulo, where the group arrived yesterday, it will visit the Butanta Institute and the Adolfo Lutz Institute. The members of this group said that "Cuba still imports a large quantity of vaccines and serums, and the CICC is preparing to make the country self-sufficient in vaccines and serums." The director of the Butanta Institute, Willy Becak, authorized the group to visit all the institute's laboratories, museums, and research facilities.

FIVE SUSPECTS IN PINOCHET ATTACK ARRESTED

PY180256 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2330 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Five individuals have been arrested in Milipeuco, 9th region, for holding up a Brink's armored car. One of the five was apprehended while trying to carry arms into Argentina. He was identified as Johnny Perez Canete, who was arrested along with Jerry del Carmen Espinoza Valdez, Albino Eduardo Velazques Delgado, Oscar Arce Tapia, and Jaime Enrique Roman. The five were placed at the disposal of military prosecutor Fernando Torres Silva because of their alleged involvement in the attack on President Augusto Pinochet and for smuggling weapons into the country. It was reported that they were carrying automatic weapons similar to those used in the attack on the president, and that they were trying to cross the border into Argentina at a 9th region border crossing. [passage omitted]

GROUP CALLS FOR CLEAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

PY182013 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1615 GMT 13 Mar 87

[By Senen Conejeros]

[Text] Santiago, 13 Mar (EFE) -- A group of 14 personalities representing the most varied citizen sectors today called on all Chileans to promote a campaign for free elections.

Former Finance Minister Sergio Molina, who is the leader of the group, explained the reasons behind this movement. He was accompanied by Eduardo Frei, the son of former president Eduardo Frei, painter Nemesio Antunez; writer Jorge Edwards; diplomat Jose Miguel Barros; physicist Igor Saavedra; economist Anibal Pinto and former legislator Silvia Alessandri, among others.

In a document issued today, they note that "the increasing threat of a [national] confrontation compels us to assert the need to agree on a procedure which will allow us to overcome our disagreements in a reasonable and civilized manner." They add that "we believe that there should be no doubts about the legitimacy of the next Chilean Government and that the future Congress must be elected by the people so that the two government branches will fully comply with their duties and obligations."

The document states that "we feel it is our right to demand that the election for president of the Republic, for the national Congress, and for local and regional authorities will offer full guarantees and that it will offer a true option." They add that "we believe that this is an essential and indispensable path to restore democracy in Chile."

The signatories of the document state that the priority task "is to hold free and honest elections. We are convinced that if our request is accepted, we will have a better political future than the one we have at present." The main objective of the campaign launched today is to show "the social demand for the prompt establishment of those conditions necessary for free elections or any kind of collective decision making process." They add that "this request is based on the belief that if we want to achieve a solid and lasting democracy in Chile, the elected president must be supported by clear and clean election procedures so that his legitimacy cannot be questioned."

According to the 1980 Constitution, in 1989 the Chilean people will be called, through a referendum, to accept or reject the next president who will be proposed by the Armed Forces. Moreover, the Constitution establishes that only if the person proposed by the Armed Forces is rejected in the referendum, direct presidential elections will be held in 1990. Since it is believed that General Pinochet will be the one proposed by the Armed Forces for the next presidential term that starts in 1989, dissidents from all ideological sectors have called a "campaign for free elections."

It has been established that although the request for holding free elections may not be accepted, this campaign will help to establish the proper basis to safeguard the holding of a clean referendum or plebiscite.

DINACOS REPORTS ON ARMS CACHE DISCOVERY

PY182152 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] A large amount of war materiel has been found in the Third Region. Today before noon, DiNACOS [Government Social Communications Agency] Director Ivan Cordoba spoke with reporters in La Moneda Palace about the war materiel discovery.

[Begin recording] Within the framework of the investigations of the FPMR [Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front] arms cache found in August 1986 in the 3d and 4th Regions, National Intelligence Center [CNI] personnel have discovered in an abandoned place near a ranch called Castilla, the following war materiel:

A total of 321,120 5.56 mm cartridges for M-16 rifles, 2,900 cartridges on feedbelts for M-60 machineguns, 85 rocket grenades for RPG-7 Soviet rocket launchers, 48 (CTG) 40 mm HENA grenades, 7 Soviet RPC-7 rocket launchers, 479 cartridge clips for FAL rifles, 1,496 clips for M-16 rifles, a 9 mm caliber UZI submachinegun, 82 bayonets for FAL rifles, 74 cloth ammunition belts, 374 gun slings of different kinds, 180 shoulder-strap ammunition belts, 51 bags with cartridge belts of slings and M-16 clips, 71 ramrods to clean weapons, and 155 bottles of weapon lubricant.

This war materiel was brought to Santiago by specialized personnel and placed in security vaults at military arsenals to be properly identified and catalogued. A full report on this new arms cache discovery has been sent to military prosecutor Colonel Fernando Torres Silva, who is responsible for the Case No 1797-86 against Sergio Bushman and other for violation of Arms Control Law No 17,798. [end recording]

POLITICAL MANIPULATION OF POPE'S VISIT ASSERTED

PY190142 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] The report by an international press agency on a Vatican audience to Marxist leaders is entirely false, and it shows that certain terrorist sectors wish to manipulate the visit of Pope John Paul II to Chile for political reasons. The Government Social Communications Agency, DINACOS, has cleared up the matter through the following communique:

1) AFP News Agency published a cable, dated Vatican City, 8 March 1987, which reported a meeting held by Msgr Achille Silvestrini, secretary of the Holy See Council for Public Affairs, and representatives of Marxist political groups presided over by Mrs Hortensia Bussi, Messrs Volodia Teitelboim, German Correa, and Gonzalo Medina.

2) This cable is entirely false, and must be categorically and flatly denied. It is not true that the Chilean Government is in charge of distributing invitations for the meeting which His Holiness John Paul II will hold with youths at the Santiago National Stadium. It is also untrue that French Bishop Msgr Marcel Lefevre has said mass at La Moneda Palace, and that his excellency, the president of the Republic, has attended such a mass.

3) In this communique, DINACOS publicly reports that certain sectors are attempting to manipulate politically the holy father's upcoming visit to our country.

DEL VALLE, BOLIVIAN CONSUL DISCUSS SEA OUTLET

PY181347 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has met with Bolivian Consul General Jorge Siles Salinas to discuss preliminary matters related to the upcoming meeting between the Chilean and Bolivian foreign ministers to be held from 21 to 23 April in Montevideo.

Siles Salinas indicated that for his country the most important issue will be the Bolivian sea outlet, and he said that conditions are favorable for discussing that issue. He added that important steps have been taken in this regard and some conclusions may be reached during the foreign ministers' meeting in Montevideo.

[Begin Siles recording] We have been working methodically through a friendly, constructive dialogue, and we believe that these efforts have not been in vain. Positive results will be obtained gradually through the talks to be held in the following months. The Montevideo meeting is basically aimed at opening the way. [end recording]

Siles pointed out that he is not aware of the specific points to be discussed during the talks, however, in addition to the sea outlet, there may be other issues that will contribute to strengthening understanding between the two countries.

Asked if there are plans to consult Peru, Siles said that the consultation will be like that of 1976. He added that the rapprochement between Chile and Bolivia has already been discussed several times in Santiago and La Paz and that another meeting is possible before the one to be held in Montevideo.

WORKERS FRONT ANNOUNCES 25 MARCH GENERAL STRIKE

PA190005 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The United Workers Front [FUT] today announced that it will carry out a general strike on Wednesday, 25 March, and called on the three labor unions that make up FUT to carry out joint actions while the strike is on.

Meanwhile, Fausto Vitan, president of CEOLS [Ecuadoran Confederation of Free Trade Union Organizations], has said that the decision to strike was adopted to reject the economic measures imposed by the government. He said that teachers, students, drivers, employees, women, and the people in general will participate in the strike. Professional drivers have not rejected carrying out a strike on Monday, 23 March, if the government does not avoid the economic measures. [passage omitted]

The labor union of the people's front has stated through its president, [name indistinct], its support for the strike called by FUT. He said that his organization has been making contacts so that the Federation of Drivers and the National Confederation of Workers will back the strike so it will be a unified one. [passage omitted]

Labor Minister on Strike

PA190224 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Today, Jorge Egas Pena, minister of Labor and Human Resources, said that the emergency situation the country is going through at this moment does not permit an increase in wages which the workers are requesting

According to the minister's criteria, the salary commissions and collective contracts are sufficient to ensure compensation for cost of living expenses. Referring to a possible general workers strike, Egas Pena described such actions as illegal.

[Begin Egas recording] The government will continue its salary policy of periodic review of remuneration taking into account real purchasing power. These regular reviews, which have been carried out throughout the administration, will continue. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

LABOR LEADER CALLS FOR NONPAYMENT OF FOREIGN DEBT

PA181308 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Patricio Aldaz, president of the General Union of Ecuadoran Workers, UGTE, gives his opinion about the measures adopted by the government:

[Begin Aldaz recording] The increase in the prices of fuel and gas and in transportation fares is a new and harsh blow to the workers and the Ecuadoran people. As they have occurred, these measures have affected the market, sending the prices of all staples skyrocketing.

This obviously makes the situation of most Ecuadoreans truly unbearable. The salaries we receive are not sufficient to meet our needs. Therefore, the UGTE, agreeing with other unions and organized sectors of Ecuador, demand the immediate elimination of these economic measures and the nonpayment of the foreign debt. We demand not only the declaration of a suspension of payment to private banks but to all international credit organizations as well, because the country cannot meet these obligations. [end recording]

ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENTS TO LOST OIL REVENUE DRAFTED

PA131801 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Quito, EFE -- National Public Information Secretary Marco Lara has reported that the Ecuadoran Government is drafting a series of readjustments to the national budget and the economic policy to compensate for the damage done by last week's earthquakes. [passage omitted]

Ecuador will experience an abrupt decrease in revenue during the rest of the year because of a suspension in oil export, Ecuador's main source of export revenue. A stretch of the trans-Ecuadoran pipeline was completely destroyed by the earthquakes and its repair will take from 5 to 6 months. In the face of this situation, Ecuador, whose foreign debts amounts to \$8.6 billion, will propose new renegotiation terms for its international obligations.

Ecuadoran Finance Minister Domingo Cordovez today announced that a new proposal will be made in line with the reality that is being experienced and better options in the negotiations will be sought.

In addition, emergency credits will be requested from the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank to finance the reconstruction of the pipeline and the pumping stations.

In the meantime, the country will temporarily export 30,000 barrels per day through Colombia's transandean pipeline. To do this, Ecuador will build 15 kilometers of pipelines to the neighboring country.

PROREFERENDUM COMMITTEE DENOUNCES ATTACKS

PY171402 Paris AFP in Spanish 0046 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Montevideo, 16 Mar (AFP) -- The police today reported that four individuals who were traveling in a white car without license plates tonight attacked several people who were collecting signatures calling for a referendum against the law that canceled the trials of the military officers. The criminals managed to make off with the lists.

This same incident occurred in nine different places along the Montevideo coastal area. In some cases, the unidentified individuals openly attacked the canvassers and snatched their lists.

The National Proreferendum Commission today reported that 160,000 signatures were collected before the 15 March deadline. This represents about 30 percent of the total signatures needed to call a plebiscite as established by the Constitution. A communique issued tonight by this commission confirmed that some lamentable incidents took place on 15 March when some individuals, unable to adapt to life in a democracy, tried to steal the signature lists by attacking the canvassers.

SWAPO'S PRESIDENT NUJOMA ARRIVES, SEEKS SUPPORT

PY181639 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1442 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Montevideo, 17 Mar (EFE) -- Sam Nujoma, leader of SWAPO, has arrived in Montevideo on a tour seeking support for SWAPO among South American governments.

Nujoma held a meeting with Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias, with the chairmen of the Senate International Affairs Commission, Juan Raul Ferreira and Roberto Asiain; and with political representatives.

Nujoma, who founded SWAPO in 1960, informed the Uruguayan foreign minister and legislators about the present situation in Namibia in view of the presence of South African troops on Namibian territory.

Nujoma reasserted that the United Nations has declared the presence of South African troops in Namibia "illegal." Nujoma added that for several years the United Nations has urged Pretoria's white authorities to withdraw from Namibia.

According to Nujoma, the United Nations has recognized SWAPO as the legitimate representative of the Namibian people.

GUERRILLAS, DRUG TRAFFICKERS OPERATING AT BORDER

PA190333 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 9 Mar 87 p D-11

[Excerpts] San Cristobal, 8 Mar -- Defense Minister Division General Rafael Cardozo Grimaldi has admitted here that subversive, kidnapping, and drugtrafficking activities are taking place in increasingly larger areas on the border with Colombia.

At the end of a meeting at the National Experimental University of Tachira, where he went to dedicate the youth and border program that was initiated yesterday throughout the country, he spoke with journalists. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Do you think there are guerrilla actions in other Venezuelan areas?

[Cardozo Grimaldi] Yes. As we all know, there are guerrilla drugtrafficking, and kidnapping activities in the border states of Apure, Tachira, and Zulia.

[Reporter] Will the border be militarized?

[Cardozo Grimaldi] No. The border is not being militarized. There are the usual security and patrol forces. [passage omitted]

AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH U.S. TO SUPPLY OIL

PA182200 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Venezuela today signed its fourth international oil contract with conditions that guarantee the stable placement of approximately 150,000 barrels of crude oil as well as the option of increasing this amount by 50,000 barrels in the next few months.

The signing of this agreement represents an important advance in the export of oil for the country because at a moment when there are indications that there will be a certain instability in the international market, the country is being guaranteed that it will be able to place its crude and to complement its traditional sales.

As of this moment, 150,000 barrels of crude and oil products will be leaving for Texas each day. This is where the Champion Refining Co has its installations.

In addition to this, Venezuela could place an additional 150,000 barrels of oil daily through the distribution system of that company. That system covers approximately 10 U.S. states, including Texas -- the site of the refinery -- Louisiana, Florida, Virginia, and Mississippi.

By having acquired 50 percent of the Champion Refinery, Venezuela has simply secured the export of approximately 435,000 barrels daily, but this is not the goal, we are moving in that direction.

Venezuelan Petroleum Inc, is holding talks to promote greater participation of our industry in the international market before the end of the year and to do this through agreements, of course, with American and European companies dedicated to refining and marketing the products. [passage omitted]

C.A. MINISTERS DISCUSS ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

PA131643 Managua International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] The economy ministers of El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica agreed in a statement made in Managua today that the drop in coffee prices drastically affects the region's economies.

Regarding this, Mario Perdomo of El Salvador, Reginaldo Panting of Honduras, and Luis Diego Escalante of Costa Rica pointed to the need to promote the Central American integration process to get out of the economic crisis the region is facing.

The area officials are attending the 38th meeting of economic integration officials in Managua, which will end tomorrow.

COSTA RICASHULTZ RESPONDS TO GOVERNMENT'S 'PROTEST' NOTE

PA180441 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Washington -- U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz replied to a protest note from Costa Rica today and said that he would never try to intimidate the country [words indistinct] support the Nicaraguan rebels. He said that the U.S. Government has good relations -- which it wants to continue -- with President Oscar Arias' administration, which has taken a neutral position regarding the civil war in Nicaragua. We discussed our views and support to the contras with the Costa Rican Government, but we never said that if it acts in one way or another with the contras we will cut our aid, Shultz said.

The foreign minister of Costa Rica presented a diplomatic note to the U.S. Embassy in San Jose (?on Monday) and demanded an explanation about the Tower Commission's report concerning secret efforts of the United States to help the contras (?through) Nicaragua's neighbors.

The U.S. Department of State declined to characterize the Costa Rican Government's note as a protest but a Costa Rican Embassy spokesman said that if the [Tower Commission] report was true then the note should be considered a protest note.

Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto's note said that the Tower Commission has reported that an airplane carrying supplies for the rebels had landed at a secret landing strip in Costa Rica [words indistinct] 1986. If this is correct, it would represent a flagrant violation of the agreement between the two nations referring to the non-use of Costa Rican territory for military or logistical support operations, he said. He added that the Costa Rica Government insists on the need for a democratization initiative in Nicaragua but does not include participation in or tolerance of actions that could deliberately -- or by omission -- affect Costa Rica's neutrality.

EL SALVADORCOL HERNANDEZ SUMMARIZES OPERATION 'PHOENIX'

PA190322 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Thirteen months after operation "Phoenix" was initiated at the Guazapa Hill, the Salvadoran Army today reported that it controls 550 square km and that the strength of the rebels has been decreased to 5 percent.

Colonel Leopoldo Hernandez, commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade stationed at San Salvador, said that 211 guerrillas have been killed during the operation and the Army has seized 284 firearms and destroyed 330 arms caches.

[Begin Hernandez recording] Last year, our Armed Forces suffered 31 dead and about 94 wounded. These casualties were inflicted on us by fire. In addition, about 397 soldiers were wounded by mines. We suffered only [words indistinct] dead by mines during the same period. According to our reports, we have killed 211 rebels and seized 284 firearms, including rifles, machineguns, 81-mm mortars, and RPG-2 and RPG-7 grenade launchers. In addition, we recovered machineguns and a 9-mm recoilless cannon. Also, we destroyed 330 arms caches, deactivated about 801 mines, and destroyed 83 camps and clandestine hospitals. [end recording]

Col Hernandez praised the reports saying that the road leading from El Paisnal to Tacachuca, in La Libertad Department, has been reopened. The road is 7 km long. He said that the reopening of the road is part of the "United to Rebuild" campaign that the Army initiated throughout the country.

GEN BLANDON ASSESSES TROOPS' MORALE, PREPAREDNESS

PA140420 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Text] General Adolfo Onecifero Blandon, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has evaluated the military preparedness and morale of the Salvadoran soldiers.

Gen Blandon stressed that the military innovations and tactics incorporated into the Army have had positive results. We are presently working on seven operations in El Salvador. The military plan includes the Departments of San Vicente, Chalatenango, San Miguel, Morazan and La Union, where our Armed Forces have introduced innovations in tactical procedures, which will continue to be used throughout the year, Blandon said.

Blandon pointed out that the Army is also working with units trained to act at the terrorist groups' rearguard. He said this has yielded very good results during the last 15 days, especially in San Miguel, Morazan, and Chalatenango Departments.

Blandon said that the Armed Forces are proud of their high degree of professionalism. He said: I have visited all the country's units, and have noted the high morale maintained by chiefs, officers, classes, and soldiers, which is important to continue our counterinsurgency plans and to succeed in eradicating FMLN-FDR actions.

COPREFA REPORTS CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON FMLN

PA182044 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Three rebels were killed and eight wounded during a clash between units of the Artillery Brigade and FMLN columns. The clash took place in Las Canas, Nueva Concepcion, in Chalatenango Department.

Another rebel was killed and one was wounded during a clash with troops of the Gen Ramon Belloso Battalion. This armed clash occurred in El Roblar, Suchitoto, Cascatian Department. The soldiers seized a large amount of ammunition and military equipment.

An additional rebel was killed when his column clashed with troops of the Military Detachment No 1 near San Miguelito farm, in Chalatenango. In this operation, the soldiers seized an FAL rifle with cartridge clips and ammunition.

FMLN groups raided Singaltique farm, near Chapeltique, San Miguel Department and killed an unidentified peasant. According to area residents who witnessed this action, the terrorists were transporting five wounded people, among them [Commander Jose] Leoncio Fichinte, whose pseudonym is Ulises. The rebels then withdrew from the farm. It is not known where the wounded people came from and where they were being taken.

FMLN terrorists bombed machine No 823 and two FENADESAL [Salvador National Railroad] railroad cars. This new attack against the railroad system was perpetrated in Km 82 near Calle Nueva El Transito, in eastern San Miguel Department.

In La Barranca, Cuyultitan, La Paz Department, rebels set fire to the home of peasant Justo Cepeda. The terrorists have threatened other area residents to set their homes on fire unless they cooperate with the rebels.

EDITORIAL ON IMPACT OF U.S. IMMIGRATION LAW

PA152312 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 12 Mar 87 p 6

[Editorial: "A Stop to Deportations"]

[Text] The U.S. Government probably has no idea of the impact on the Salvadoran people caused by the announced deportation of all those who do not have their documents in order in that country; those known as "illegal aliens." Thousands of men and women from countries in our area, many of them from El Salvador, a country afflicted by war for more than 7 years. [sentence as published] The announcement that all those who arrived after 1 January 1982 might be deported for not clearing their documentation as established by the INS caused great commotion in all sectors of the population for the reasons mentioned so many times: Thousands have left their homeland because they were being persecuted and feared for their lives; many thousands left in search of jobs, because unemployment was and is still one of the most serious problems affecting the Salvadoran people.

On Tuesday, with this picture before us, we published with great satisfaction an AP dispatch that Washington published as a front-page story, which has brought new hopes to Salvadorans who are currently in the United States and could go through the sad experience of being deported.

According to that dispatch, "thousands of undocumented foreigners -- particularly from Central American and Caribbean countries -- could benefit from a recent judgment of the Supreme Court concerning political asylum in the United States." That ruling states that those foreigners -- and we believe that our compatriots fall in that category -- who may have "well-founded fears" of being politically persecuted in their countries may receive from the government the only alternative that permits them to continue living in that nation: political asylum.

The commentaries in the United States regarding that Supreme Court decision have been favorable, as no one ignores the situation that thousands of Central American and Caribbean immigrants would face if deported to their countries of origin. In many cases their lives would be in danger, a situation from which they escaped under difficult circumstances. No one knows how difficult it is for those who are on the run or will be on the run, to reach the United States; and there are heart-rending stories about them.

Ever since we began talking about the announced deportations we have focused on what has been widely mentioned in recent days: Thousands of fellow citizens are working and helping their families in El Salvador, whom they send a sizable part of their earnings. The money sent by them is considerable. It involves millions which, under different circumstances, would not be sent to alleviate the bitter economic situation which prevails here.

ARENA Comments on Law

PA132229 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 12 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] In the face of the imminent deportation from the United States of some 500,000 compatriots, the Christian Democratic Government has again displayed its incapacity to govern, and lack of foresight, because it hasn't made any efforts to tackle the problem, said leaders of the Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA). They added that all social sectors in the country must unilaterally make efforts before the Reagan administration and the U.S. Congress to prevent such deportations. They said that the promulgation of the immigration or amnesty law will thwart the financial effort that the U.S. people have been carrying out to keep the Salvadoran economy afloat. They also pointed out that the most disturbing thing is that President Duarte has never taken the trouble to air this serious problem during his frequent trips to the United States when he has had the opportunity to meet with the main political leaders of that country.

The apparent reason, the ARENA leaders added, is that Duarte is only concerned with his image and is indifferent to the fate of hundreds of thousands of compatriots living there. The ARENA spokesmen pointed out that henceforth any attempts made by President Duarte before the Reagan administration and the U.S. Congress will be untimely, because the logical thing to do was to prevent the mass deportation of Salvadorans before that law was proclaimed. They stated that according to estimates, Salvadorans residing illegally in the United States send back approximately \$1.3 billion each year [figure as heard], more than 6 million colones. This amounts to nearly twice the national budget.

Should deportations take place, the country will cease to receive those large amounts of foreign currency and the problems of unemployment, housing, education, and poor health conditions will become worse, the ARENA leaders added.

GUATEMALAEDITORIAL ON U.S. AMBASSADOR'S DEPARTURE

PA190122 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Editorial: "Will Mr Piedra Leave?"]

[Text] There is speculation in political and diplomatic circles concerning the imminent replacement of the mighty and controversial Mr Alberto Martinez Piedra, U.S. ambassador in Guatemala. The newspaper PRENSA LIBRE referred to this in its latest Sunday supplement: We must look out for changes that might take place among those who design U.S. strategy for Latin America. Mr Elliott Abrams, a ferocious anti-Sandinist and a great friend of the contras, is walking on thin ice and he may fall at any minute.

The arrival of the new ambassador in Guatemala, James Michaels, depends a lot on this. He was on the Kissinger Commission's advisory team. He is a lawyer, a career diplomat, and is well informed on Central American affairs. However, the storms created in the capital by the Tower Commission's report make his arrival uncertain so far.

The article published by PRENSA LIBRE confirms in a certain way the rumors that Mr Piedra will leave. The Reagan administration's illustrious plenipotentiary representative to our country was born in Cuba, and has not exactly been a congenial, friendly, and understanding ambassador who strengthened links and friendly relations between our two countries. Consequently, few will experience any feeling of sorrow over his alleged departure, unlike other diplomats who leave a deep void and sincere friendships.

Oscar Clemente Marroquin also commented, in DIARIO LA HORA, about the way the U.S. ambassador moves around Guatemala City's streets. We quote him: The Guatemalan people are insolently shoved aside by the diplomat's security personnel, who show their machineguns through the car windows with aggressive attitudes against anyone who has the bad luck of crossing such an illustrious person's path.

Consequently, if the preconditions are proven true: Good-bye, Mr Piedra, [preceding three words in English] and good riddance [sin pena ni gloria]!

TREASURY POLICE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES INSPECTIONS

PA190143 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] New Treasury Police Director Oscar Diaz Urquizu has stated that his first job in the corps will be to evaluate the work, attitude, and record of all the police commanders in the capital and the rest of the Republic. The official said he has begun his departmental inspections at La Aurora International Airport's terminal, the customs storage areas, and other places where Treasury Police members are posted. He wants to make sure they are strictly abiding by the law.

Mr Diaz Urquizu said the second step will be to visit other departments throughout the Republic. He will visit the Treasury Police substations to see how personnel are handling the arrival of merchandise and protecting fiscal interests, as well as fighting contraband.

HONDURASUNIDENTIFIED REBELS, ARMY TROOPS CLASH

PA190331 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Yesterday at approximately 1500 there was a clash in Santa Barbara Department between the 12th Infantry Battalion led by Colonel Mario Amaya and a subversive detachment. Up until 2200 when we first reported the incident, we could not tell if the subversives were Guatemalans, Salvadorans, or a new Honduran guerrilla cell. However, a soldier, Manuel Lopez y Lopez was killed. He was from Protection Santa Barbara where he will be buried today with full military honors. one Honduran soldier was wounded. The subversives also suffered casualties: 1 dead and 2 wounded.

Last night the 12th Infantry Battalion officially broadcast this information. Unfortunately, there was no communication with Copan Department at that time. Communications were reestablished shortly after 2250, but we had already reported this new clash between subversives and members of the Honduran Army

ARMED FORCES REPORT ON REBEL ACTIONS, PLANS

PA182119 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1130 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Reported by Jorge Alberto Diaz Castillo]

[Text] Yesterday in a news conference held at the officers club of the Public Security Force, the Honduran Armed Forces disclosed new and convincing details about the death of two rebels who were killed last Friday [13 Mar] in Guamilito neighborhood in San Pedro Sula.

This news conference was attended by Colonel Manuel Enrique Suarez Benavides, director general of the Honduran Armed Forces public relations department; Lieutenant Colonel Guillermo Pinel Calix, director general of the Department of National Investigation (DIN); Major Rodolfo Diaz Zelaya, DIN regional director in San Pedro Sula, and civilian spokesmen of the Honduran Armed Forces.

Maj Diaz Velasquez [as heard] said that left-wing student groups have benefited the most from the assaults by the Lorenzo Zelaya Front. he described the plan this group intended to implement in 1987.

[Begin Diaz recording] We have here a record book where they account for almost the full amount and other sums robbed in the northern region [not further identified]. We also have figures on their propaganda budget from January to December 1987. They allocated such funds for propaganda activities in newspapers and news bulletins, posters, leaflets, banners, silkscreens, paid advertisements, and materials and equipment. You can also see that the funds ended up in the hands of student groups in several high schools in Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula. I can mention the Vicente Caceres Institute, Pedro Lubio Teachers' School, Jose Trinidad Reyes school and other schools in Tegucigalpa and San Pedro. The sum allocated for these propaganda and student activities is 27,800 lempiras. We can also determine from these records all the activities in which the rebels use these funds.

We have also found in the house the Lorenzo Zelaya People's Revolutionary Front work plan for 1987. The plan contains the group's general objectives, purposes, and specific goals. The general objectives are: to contribute to create the bases for the organization of the party, to build the social bases for urban guerrilla warfare, to strengthen the urban guerrilla combat forces, to secure the financing of the organization, and to begin to mobilize prepared with political objectives. The general objectives also include directions to initiative military tasks on the urban front and to extend the military activities to the main cities in the country. [end recording]

The Armed Forces official added that inside this house last week in Guamilito neighborhood in San Pedro Sula they found no money. However, they did find documents, which contain details of the budget for propaganda planned by the Lorenzo Zelaya Front for 1987.

Radio America questioned Maj Diaz on why the police reported that Freddy Nolasco and Hilda Rosa Rato died of shots fired from an M-16 rifle, when the coroner reported that they died of shots from a .38 caliber weapon. Maj Diaz Velasquez and Col Pinel Calix said that this could have been a suicide. It is possible that the two committed suicide, which is part of their ideological training to not disclose the plans of their organization, said Col Pinel Calix.

PRESIDENT SAYS AID NEEDED TO SET REGIONAL EXAMPLE

PA181525 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- According to President Jose Azcona Hoyo, Honduras would require a great deal of economic aid from the United States to serve as a "show case" for Nicaragua so the Nicaraguan people, out of "envy," would try to overthrow the Sandinist regime.

Addressing members who participated in the First Central American Economic Conference on Trade, Investments, and Development held during a dinner at the Tegucigalpa Country Club on Friday, Azcona Hoyo explained that Honduras has a "very serious problem" with the sale of electricity to Costa Rica and Panama because, "it must go through Nicaragua, and we have to sell energy to Nicaragua also, whether we like it or not."

Azcona Hoyo said that "no one wants to understand that it is impossible to coexist in such a small area with such antagonistic systems. One must talk about these things, although it seems the big country in the north does not want to talk about it."

"The Honduran Government has been described as ultrarightist, a puppet of the United States, and many other things, but the truth is, Honduras occupies a small geographic point, and very close to it is a government that will not allow us to have the economic development we want," he noted.

He explained that the Central American countries are viewed as one geographic unit from abroad, and since there are problems in Nicaragua and El Salvador it is assumed there are problems in all of Central America. This makes investments difficult.

The president thanked the U.S. policy makers for coming to Honduras and participating in the conference "to see that despite our small geographic size, we are an oasis of peace and tranquillity."

However, he said that "the effects of the consolidation of the Nicaraguan political system will have very negative effects not only on Honduras but also on Costa Rica. Part of our budget, once that political system becomes consolidated, will have to be devoted to defense and security, which we all know are not investments but expenditures."

"However, it will have to be that way," he continued, "because you cannot isolate that which is not an island."

"People speak of and insist on that idea. I have talked to U.S. senators, who tell us to isolate Nicaragua, but it is not possible to isolate that which is not an island. One can isolate and patrol around Cuba, but Nicaragua has a 700-odd km border area with Honduras, and a 300 km border area with Costa Rica, I think," he added.

"Therefore, we must protect that enormous border area by using the resources we need for projects of economic development, defense and security," he stressed.

"There are optimistic people such as Presidential Designate Jaime Rosenthal Oliva, who say that with the example we give Nicaragua, we could change that government. I also think so, but, to be an incentive, a showcase for Nicaragua, we are going to need that extraordinary aid."

"Reducing the \$65 million that President Reagan wanted to give us to \$55 million will not help Honduras become a showcase for Nicaragua. This will not cause the Nicaraguan people, out of envy, as Mr Jaime Rosenthal says, to overthrow that government," he said.

However, he said "we trust that the example we are showing the world, an example of respect for human rights and the efforts we made to survive and grow with faith in democracy -- efforts that have been proven throughout the last three elections, in which over 30 percent of the Honduran people registered to vote, voluntarily voted -- will serve as an example for the free world and developed peoples to look toward this part of the world and help us to consolidate democracy and attain the happiness our people deserve as do all the peoples of the world."

NICARAGUA

BARRICADA REPORTS TEXT OF PROTEST NOTE TO SHULTZ

PA182239 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 18 Mar 87 p 5

[Protest note sent to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, signed by Acting Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco in Managua on 16 March]

[Text] Managua, 16 March 1987

To: Your Excellency George P. Shultz
U.S. Secretary of State.

Mr Secretary of State:

I address you in regard to the following matters:

Today, 16 March 1987, at 0340, mercenary agents hired by the U.S. Government tried to destroy, with explosives, a high voltage tower located along the shores of Managua Lake. Even though power was not interrupted by this action, I must stress the seriousness of the matter had the tower been destroyed. It would have affected the physical integrity of the families that live in the homes of the area, which were damaged.

As a result of the preliminary investigations carried out by the Nicaraguan authorities, it was established that the explosive used was the U.S.-made hexogen [hexogeno], or C-4, with a M-60 slow fuse bearing the following inscription "waterproof M-60 plastic detonating timer."

The Nicaraguan Government holds the North American administration directly responsible for the attempted sabotage and at the same time strongly and formally protests these criminal actions, which are within the framework of the bloody official policy of state terrorism that your government practices in open violation of the most universally recognized rights of international law and in an open disregard for human life.

This type of action coincides with the statements being made by several U.S. Administration officials regarding the planning of new attacks against the government and people of Nicaragua.

You will surely remember that the International Court of Justice [ICJ] in its 27 June 1986 ruling regarding the "military and paramilitary activities in Nicaragua and against Nicaragua" strongly condemned the U.S. Government for encouraging the mercenary forces in its service, to carry out actions that are against the general principles of human rights.

It is condemnable, from every point of view, that the U.S. Government should encourage this type of propaganda that is truly an act of vandalism and terrorism.

Such terrorist actions, to which we must add the countless mass kidnappings, the systematic practice of torture, killing people without taking any risks, and the attacks on cooperatives and civilian targets, strongly show the degree of loss of morale as well as the failure of the military activities of the mercenary groups created by your government, that in face of their defeats, are taking their rage out on the civilian population.

The Nicaraguan Government strongly demands that the U.S. Government put an immediate end to the policy of state terrorism and to agree, in good faith, to resume civilized relations among states. To achieve this, the U.S. Government must immediately and properly abide by the ICJ ruling and put an end to its illegal and immoral policy that sets it outside the boundaries of international law, which is an unreplaceable basis to guarantee peace, security, and respect for the human rights of the peoples.

Sincerely yours,
Victor Hugo Tinoco
Acting Foreign Minister.

U.S. REPORTEDLY CANCELS MEETING WITH CONTRAS

PA182100 Managua International Service in Spanish 2350 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] The Reagan administration has canceled a secret meeting it had planned to hold with the Somozist counterrevolutionaries in Miami when the news of this report was published in the U.S. newspapers. THE WASHINGTON TIMES made an announcement today, adding that both the White House and the State Department denied there would be such a meeting.

However, mercenary forces confirmed to the U.S. newspaper that Elliott Abrams, the assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, personally telephoned the Somozist chieftains to plan the meeting for this weekend.

The newspaper stated that Abrams, Frank Carlucci, the national security adviser, and other White House officials were planning to meet with the two mercenaries that are left in the UNO [Nicaraguan Opposition Union] Directorate -- Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios and Alfonso Robelo.

SOUTHERN FRONT CLAIMS CREDIT FOR MANAGUA SABOTAGE

PA181654 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1630 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] San Jose, 18 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The anti-Sandinist Southern Front today claimed responsibility for the sabotage actions carried out in the Nicaraguan capital 2 days ago.

A communique of the Southern Front stated that this is the first action of the "Monimbo Lives" campaign which was carried out in the outskirts of the Nicaraguan capital by the "Gustavo Exequiel Gutierrez Specialized Cell."

Reports from Managua indicated yesterday that rebel commandos acted near the Nicaraguan capital in an attempt to blow up a high tension tower located on the shores of Lake Managua.

An Interior Ministry communique indicated on Tuesday that the unsuccessful sabotage occurred at 0340 on Monday near a shoe factory, 6 km north of Managua.

The Southern Front warned that "in the next few months this type of action will become widespread" to prove to the people that "the FSLN is not as invulnerable as it proclaims."

According to the contras, the campaign of sabotage is the result of a decision made by the "internal resistance" after analyzing the situation in Nicaragua and reaching the conclusion that "objective conditions exist to launch campaigns of sabotage in the country's main cities."

TIRADO DELIVERS FSLN MESSAGE TO LIBYAN CONGRESS

PA180247 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 14 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] The 10th anniversary of the establishment of popular power in Libya was commemorated on 1 March. On that occasion, Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez presented an FSLN message to the congress of the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah.

These are some excerpts of his speech.

On 1 September 1969, Comrade al-Qadhdhafi led the revolutionary movement that put an end to the feudal and colonialist reign that oppressed this people, as history tells. Revolutions do not happen by chance.

Eight years later, on 2 March 1977, showing its strength and an unstoppable progress in social and economic development, people's power was proclaimed that set up the strength of the masses in an orderly manner as a new self-governing system that attracted the attention of the world at large. Attending their 10th anniversary, we have come to confirm, verify, and back this example of the people's power with revolutionary solidarity. This power has survived and will survive despite the obstacles raised and the aggressions of imperialism, particularly U.S. imperialism.

Characteristically, this commemoration takes place in a world panorama convulsed by regional armed and economic conflicts that overwhelm the Third World. The arms race is fostered by imperialism. This race has been part of a nuclear arms race mostly driven by the U.S. Government since the early eighties. This government will invest in this race more than \$1 trillion during the next 5-year period, that is to say, \$46 million every house or \$20,000 for every U.S. taxpayer. We think that those countries which have conquered colonialism and neocolonialism, the countries that struggle to overcome economic backwardness, must make great efforts to prevent a nuclear war.

With this arms race, the U.S. Government is trying to keep its hegemony in the technological, scientific, cultural, and ideological fields and increase division among the oppressed peoples. This division, a springboard for imperialism, constitutes the main cause of the world crisis.

Nowadays, people rebel against U.S. policy and defeat it through national anti-imperialist liberation revolutions, such as the Libyan, Nicaraguan, and Vietnamese revolutions did. As did Nasir's revolutionary colonialism, which is equal to Sandino's nationalism, and the Cuban revolution led by Fidel Castro.

In addition, we Third World peoples are the most interested in promoting and backing peace initiatives to check the nuclear arms race.

We will avoid the imposition of wars upon us, like the one being imposed on us at present with mercenary forces. We will prevent wars and thus benefit the Libyan people and its leaders. In this way, we develop economically, and all of us benefit. We must also say that the economies of these peoples have been exploited, but we struggle for a new international economic order based on equality in which protectionism can be ended.

The Nonaligned Movement, which plays a very important role, must move toward the achievement of its objectives based on the principles on which the movement originated.

These objectives are nonintervention, mutual respect, self-determination, and respect for the characteristics of each country and its traditions and economic development conditions.

In this international panorama, which we are part because we are the victims of U.S. imperialist aggression, we cannot fail to mention our solidarity with the cause of the African peoples who have been the victims of every exploitation system, from slavery to the most disgusting forms of racial segregation, such as apartheid.

The South African people's unceasing resistance against racists can only lead to final victory over those who regard themselves privileged because of their fair skin. Victory lies in the Third World countries' unity, countries identified with each other against colonialism. To achieve victory by themselves is difficult.

Likewise, we regard as indispensable the actions and the unanimous support of all for the just struggle of SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] to achieve the sovereignty and the self-determination of its territory, as did the Libyan and Nicaraguan revolutions. We also must acknowledge and make our internationalist efforts to demand that the territories of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic be vacated. In the forefront, Polisario [Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia El Hamra and Rio de Oro] has continued to fight heroically to make the international provisions effective.

In addition, we could not fail at this particular time to mention the struggle of the Palestinian people, who are still massacred while international opinion expectantly awaits the outcome of this struggle.

From this forum, we flatly repudiate the plans aimed at denying to the Palestinian people the sacred right to recover their territory. We support the efforts to achieve unity and harmony among Palestinians, a harmony so very necessary for victory over their enemies.

WHEELLOCK DESCRIBES EFFECTS OF LOW PRICES

PA151451 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 13 Mar 87 p 12

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock has warned that the national economy will suffer a harsh blow if the low prices continue for the agricultural products that we export.

"It is a harsh blow to our country, to our projects and to coffee production in particular," added the agricultural development and agrarian reform minister.

He pointed out that as a response to this situation, efforts are necessary to improve quality and productivity to lower production costs.

He emphasized that the prices of coffee, cotton, and sugar have decreased; in fact, they are at a 20-year low.

The current international market coffee prices affect Nicaragua because they are reducing the investments that were earmarked for the rehabilitation of the coffee industry.

He announced that \$100 million will be lost in the 1987-88 coffee harvest if the prices continue as they are now.

CASTRO NOTES IMPORTANCE OF BRAZILIAN EMBASSY

FL180414 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Statements made by President Fidel Castro on 17 March at site of Brazilian Embassy in Havana -- recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto Costa de Abreu Sodre have laid the cornerstone for what will be the Brazilian Embassy in Cuba. The diplomatic headquarters will be located on 7th and 24th Streets in Miramar.

[Castro] [Words indistinct] and this is now truly present because I imagine it is a little more complicated.

[Unidentified Speaker] Yes, it is saved. We save it and then the architect's draft is agreed upon.

[Castro] Now we have to wait for the draft. We cannot do anything. [laughs]

[Speaker] Yes, we are waiting for the draft.

[Castro] Then the school...

[Abreu Sodre, interrupting] We are going to (?speed up the process).

[Castro] We ourselves will promote a solution to the problem of the schools.

[Speaker] Yes, yes, that is correct.

[Castro] And if a space is available for a single school that does not need two or three installations... [does not finish sentence]

[Speaker] I spoke with (Glenda) in the municipality...

[Castro, interrupting] We should make it several stories high. It should be several stories.

[Speaker, interrupting] And consolidate it into one building.

[Castro] And possibly use a space that is more or less similar to one of those schools and we should do it all at once.

[Speaker] Yes, that is correct.

[Castro] The school will be in just one building and not three or four.

[Abreu Sodre] It can be done?

[Speaker] Yes, of course, [words indistinct]

[Castro] Because it happened suddenly. The sudden increase of students was so large that we used some of the houses here that we were building. This house [words indistinct] and what is that building?

[Speaker] That is an office.

[Castro] [Video shows Castro speaking to woman reporter holding a microphone] It is very significant to establish relations, find a building, rent a building, and establish an embassy, but we all seem to be interested in establishing the Brazilian Embassy because of the importance Brazil represents to our country, Latin America, and Third World countries. It is important that the building be a dignified representation of Brazil.

It was very difficult to find a building under those conditions and there were problems in constructing the building because we have many embassies. Buildings are not specifically constructed for embassies but, instead, existing buildings are used.

Because of these difficulties, I suggested constructing an embassy. I said that we had the land, all the land necessary for this [the camera shows Castro interrupting himself to pull the reporter's hair away from her face as he says, "that hair is bothering you", and then he continues with his sentence] to make a building that can appropriately accommodate the Brazilian Embassy. I said this but it was more like a dream. I said, I hope that [name indistinct] can draft a plan for the embassy but I said it more as a wish, not with the assurance that it was possible. The ambassador liked the idea very much and he soon began consultations. He surely consulted with the foreign minister, with the president.

The news was received in a few days. We immediately began the task of finding land. Land is not abundant here because Cuba is not Brazil, which has millions of square meters of land. We are a small island and we need to conserve land. Havana has to grow up because if we extend ourselves in individual houses, we will end up at the southern coast. We would be pouring cement over agricultural areas, which supply the population with food. Because of that...[changes thought] Land is scarce in Havana but we have decided to fulfill the promise of finding adequate land. Then the comrades from (Cubal), which is an institution that provides services for diplomats, drafted a plan for a large building. How many floors were planned?

[Speaker] (?Five) floors

[Castro] This building had a proprietor. Once we saw that this location is one of the best for this purpose, we had to negotiate with the interested parties so that they would agree to this proposal.

[Speaker] Thank you.

CASTRO OPENS HOME FOR ELDERLY IN GUANABACOA

FL171855 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1255 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Announcer-read report over video on visit made by President Fidel Castro to the opening of a home for the elderly in Guanabacoa.]

[Text] [Begin Castro recording] I am going to tour the place and see the building that took so long to complete. If the peoples' government and the laborers had not come here it would have never been completed. They say it would have been completed by 1988. I do not believe so; it would not have been completed by 1988. [end recording]

This new home for the elderly has room for 160 residents, as Fidel called them, inasmuch as all of them could not be called elderly because most of them look very good. This project was considerably delayed during the first 3 years of construction, but thanks to the efforts made by the workers of the area, who contributed over 20,000 volunteer hours, it was completed. The institution has a small staff, corresponding to the number of beds. Fidel considered this to be positive although he noted that a lot of construction space was used.

[Begin Castro recording] With the help of microbrigades and a revolutionary concept, Havana Province is working on hundreds of projects in the capital. It is possible that construction materials may be lacking but the will, muscle, labor force, and spirit for that of construction are not. We have to put an end to all those vices [as heard]. This is why it is very good that currently if something like this is planned it should be completed in 1 year or a maximum of 18 months, and not in 4 years. It was completed in 4 years and 2 months because these forces came to finish it, because the peoples' government and the factory's laborers came to complete it. [Otherwise] it would not have been completed. It could have easily taken 10 years. I have seen things like this. This project was also stopped for some time, but it is very nice that it was completed and it should be completed as the [word indistinct] building was completed. They are two projects. When was the maternity hospital completed here?

[Unidentified speaker] On 13 August, Commander.

[Castro] Well, in that case thank you very much because that is my birthday. [the crowd laughs, applauds] That is when the Guanabacoa Maternity Hospital was completed. How long had they been working on it, comrade?

[Speaker] Five years.

[Castro] And if you do not begin working hard there, another five?

[Speaker] It was supposed to be completed this year, at the end of 1987.

[Castro] With a little more it would have lasted 6 years. So in a few months, two important projects have been completed. No more projects should be left unfinished. No projects should last forever.

That is why I say that those are two good things that are marked with the inauguration of this center. One, the fact that it was completed with the support of the people, of the masses, of the workers, and with a special effort. See how pretty this is when it is completed and how many people are happy. Imagine if this center took 4 more years to complete and all the people who are going to start receiving services beginning today — the 160 people who are going to receive necessary services in this center — how would they have managed during those 4 or 5 extra years? How would those mothers have managed in that hospital which was so overcrowded if that project was not completed?

It is very nice to see a project completed and see happy and satisfied people and how useful it is going to be. It is not only the fact that it is going to be useful to 100 elderly, 160 [interrupts himself] I made a mistake again. [laughter] Some 160 residents of the home. Some 160 people. We all feel good when we see them doing well. We all feel good when they are happy. So this is not an institution in which only 160 people benefit but an institution in which thousands of people benefit because they are happy that those 160 people with serious problems are solving them. [applause]

FURTHER ON 10 MARCH HIJACKING ATTEMPT

FL181530 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] The revolutionary willpower and firmness of the aviation technical workers of the Jose Marti International Airport made possible for the Cubana de Aviacion 706 aircraft, which was the object of an attempted hijacking last 10 March, to take off last night for Nueva Gerona. The aircraft, a Soviet-made AN-24, was damaged by a grenade explosion. In only 6 days of continued efforts, the plane began flying the Cuban skies with its valuable human cargo. The Cubana de Aviacion resuming flight had the same crew that defended the interests of our socialist society. The trip to Nueva Gerona went on satisfactorily.

TALKS HELD WITH ANGOLA, USSR IN MOSCOW

FL132240 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1925 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Text] The attempts by Washington and Pretoria to destabilize Angola, defeat its People's Government, and establish a puppet regime there were exposed during the Soviet-Cuban-Angolan talks held in Moscow on 10 and 11 March.

The participants in the meetings advocated seeking a political solution to the South African problem with the participation of the United Nations, Nonaligned Movement, front line countries, the OAU, and all peace-loving forces. The parties agreed that peace in that area will only be attained through the elimination of apartheid and Pretoria's attacks against neighboring countries.

The Soviet, Angolan, and Cuban delegations reaffirmed that the conflict in the continent's south causes much suffering to the area's peoples and is a tension point affecting the whole world.

COMMENTS ON UNO RESIGNATIONS, EMBEZZLEMENTS

PA151815 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Mar 87

["Our America" commentary, read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] The degree of corruption of the anti-Nicaraguan mercenary leaders has led them, to a greater or lesser extent, to take advantage of circumstances and increase their personal power, but it has also led them to disgrace.

These opinions resulted from recent resignations of some counterrevolutionary leaders and from the U.S. House of Representatives' recent decision to delay the delivery of military assistance to the bands until the White House explains the way in which the previously delivered funds were used.

For a long time voices in the U.S. Congress itself have been saying that President Ronald Reagan's favorite children pocketed large amounts of money destined to finance actions allegedly in favor of Nicaraguan freedom.

Until a few days ago, all accusations centered around Adolfo Calero, former member of the triumvirate that leads the self-style Nicaraguan Opposition Unity [UNO]. In view of reiterated reports that he pocketed part of the funds destined to the bands, the White House forced him to resign from his position.

Subsequently, Calero had to appear in a U.S. federal court to explain the reiterated reports of misappropriation of funds, specifically \$20 million, which came from the sale of weapons to Iran and were transferred to the Nicaraguan counterrevolution.

Faced with the evidence, the U.S. Government decided to remove Calero, assuming that with this action the UNO's public image would improve. However, a short time later, apparently under the same pressure, leader Arturo Cruz also resigned. Cruz was considered politically credible and a possible presidential alternative for Nicaragua. He admitted that from January to November 1986 he received \$7,000 per month from recently dismissed Colonel Oliver North. According to Cruz he needed that amount to support his family, because he had left his bank job to work exclusively against the Nicaraguan Government. However, before that self-denying devotion, Cruz also admitted that he had received financial aid from none other than the CIA.

As we can see, the counterrevolutionary leaders act without consideration when it comes to money, regardless of whether the money comes from the CIA, the National Security Council, or is embezzled from the sacred funds of their followers. The truth is that while UNO leaders resign and their deep disagreements surface, the House of Representatives demands that President Reagan explain the whereabouts of the funds granted to his proteges.

PROVOCATIONS TOWARD NICARAGUA AT 'DANGEROUS STAGE'

PA132124 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Mar 87

["Our America" commentary, read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] The identification of the Honduran Government with the warlike U.S. policy seems to be approaching a very dangerous stage regarding the aggression against Nicaragua. An example is the constant shelling of Nicaraguan border towns by Honduran Army troops since 5 March, which adds a new element of tension to the area situation.

Let us recall with a brief summary that ever since he arrived in the White House President Ronald Reagan has turned Honduras' soil into his favorite place to deploy U.S. troops through constant military maneuvers. The exercises not only seek to give an appearance of legality to U.S. meddling in Central America but represent a constant threat to Nicaragua, which also endures periodic incursions by the counterrevolutionaries, 10,000 of whom are based in camps along the common border. There is no need to emphasize that the former Somozists have found their sanctuary in Honduras. They have taken possession of some 14,000 km of Honduran territory while over 15,000 Hondurans have become refugees in their own country, having been dislodged by the armed groups financed and trained by Washington.

The \$27 million worth of losses in regional coffee crops caused by the counterrevolutionaries constitutes an eloquent figure. What circulated as a rumor until recently has now been confirmed: According to the Tower commission report, one of the most important clandestine bases for the stockpiling and delivery of weapons for the mercenary bands is in Honduras.

If one considers the fact that despite all this the counterrevolutionary groups have not achieved a single victory; that the Tegucigalpa government is joining the U.S. interventionist plans more and more; and that the White House is irresponsibly headed toward direct aggression against Nicaragua, it would not be surprising if the Honduran Army were chosen as the spearhead.

It looks like the provocation will not proceed at a faster pace. In this regard, Nicaraguan Major Cesar Delgadillo, chief of general staff of the region in which the attacks have taken place, has said that these actions constitute an attempt at creating a conflict to serve as a pretext for a large-scale armed attack.

BRIEFS

STEEL INDUSTRY AGREEMENT SIGNED — Representatives from the USSR, Poland, the CSSR, and Cuba have signed in Havana a cooperation agreement for the steel industry, which is considered to be the first step toward the export of Cuban agricultural equipment to CEMA member countries. [Text] [Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Mar 87 FL]

HAITIGOVERNMENT TAKES STEPS FOR FREE, FAIR REFERENDUM

FL181340 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] The Haitian Government is taking steps to guarantee a free and fair vote in the upcoming constitutional referendum. The Haitian Government announced yesterday that local and foreign press representatives will be allowed to watch the counting of votes in the upcoming referendum that will give to that nation a new constitution. Haitians will vote for or against what is considered to be one of the most liberal constitutions that Haiti has ever had.

The new constitution, written in French and Creole, favors a 5-year term for a president elected by the people. A second term is allowed but not consecutively. The president elected will choose a prime minister among the representatives of the political party with the majority of the votes. However, the president will not be able to dissolve the Chamber of Deputies, will not have the right to the nomination of ambassadors, or the Army chief of staff, or the police chief, or the office of judges. Moreover, for the first time in the country's history the constitution assembly also voted for an agrarian reform, the separation of the police from the Army, the coexistence of the political parties, labor unions, and associations. Finally, the new constitution forbids all elected functions for the 10 coming years for anybody who has been known to have in any way helped or favored the dictatorship established by the Duvalier family in the first 29 years.

DELEGATION VISITS MARTINIQUE, AID PROMISED

FL181409 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] A delegation of Haitian officials have left Martinique with a promise of aid from the French Caribbean island. The promise of aid came following a week-long visit to that country. The three-man team led by the mayor of a Haitian town have left after holding talks with officials of Martinique's regional and general councils of the island's capital.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGOANTIDRUG DRIVE SEIZES 'ONLY' 900 GRAMS OF DOPE

FL181421 Bridgetown CANA in English 2248 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, March 17, the government's three-day amnesty aimed at collecting illegal guns and drugs resulted in the collection of only eight guns and under 900 grams of marijuana.

A government statement said a total of five revolvers, one shot gun, two air rifles, and 206 rounds of ammunition had been handed in to police stations throughout the country.

In an attempt to haul in illegal drug supplies, National Security Minister Herbert Atwell had also announced that the amnesty would extend to the turning in of drugs, threatening the maximum penalties under the law at the close of the amnesty Sunday night.

The official statement said 875 grams of marijuana had been collected.

The amnesty came in the wake of a publication of a report on drug abuse here.

The report had linked senior officials of the local police force, the magistracy, and former government ministers with the illicit drug trade.

Atwell had said that 222 illegal guns had been seized by police in 1985, 236 firearms in 1986 and 13 for 1987 so far.

PNM PARTY BEGINS 'MAJOR' REORGANIZATION

FL181651 Bridgetown CANA in English 1618 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, March 18, CANA -- The People's National Movement (PNM), which ruled the country for 30 years until its defeat last December, is engaged in a major restructuring process which includes updating party financing, leader Patrick Manning says.

Manning told reporters that the PNM had become mainly financed by a 7 and 1/2 per cent payment of salary from government ministers when it was in office.

The PNM, which retained only three seats in last December's election, was working out steps to finance the party and reviewing membership fees -- currently 50 cents (one TT dollars or 27.7 U.S. cents).

Reorganisation of the party was discussed at the PNM's ruling general council's meeting last Sunday.

Manning said the party plans to hold a special convention in the next six weeks to vote on changes to its Constitution.

Changes would include raising the age of membership for the party's youth league, formation of party interest groups to add to the traditional constituency group formation, new ways for membership application and constitutional reform.

PRESIDENTIAL POWER 'SENSITIVE ISSUE' IN CONSTITUTION

PM181525 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 13 Mar 87 p 8

[Unnamed "own correspondents" report: "Draft Surinamese Constitution Gives President Major Powers"]

[Text] The Hague/Paramaribo -- In the draft of the new Surinamese constitution the president has far-reaching powers of appointment and command. While it is true that he is answerable to parliament, the draft nowhere states what sanctions the people's representatives can impose if he does not adhere to the rules.

The president's powers are reported to be among the most sensitive issue in the Netherlands Government's and the Second Chamber's evaluation of the democratization process, given that Army leader Bouterse is being named as Suriname's future president.

The Netherlands Government's position is still that the Surinamers themselves must reach a decision about Bouterse's future. For The Hague the departure of the Army leader has never been a formal condition for the restoration of normal relations. But Foreign Minister Van den Broek is increasingly concerned about the possible candidacy of Suriname's strong man. The minister is asking whether there can ever be any suggestion of a state with an effective and functioning legal system and democracy with Bouterse -- and he has already been chosen -- at its head.

The Netherlands Government fears that stability will be difficult to find in a republic under Bouterse, whose behavior has always given rise to the opposition of large sections of the population, chiefly during the actions against the jungle creoles and the student demonstrators in Paramaribo. Van den Broek's reservations about Bouterse's candidacy also played a role in the Netherlands minister's talks Wednesday [11 March] with Surinamese representative Heidweiller.

In the statement made public after the end of their talks the Netherlands minister spoke of "ready doubts" about the democratization process in Suriname. According to the initiated in The Hague this must be interpreted chiefly as a reference to Bouterse's candidacy for the presidency.

A judicial commission under the leadership of lawyer and former parliament deputy Mr Eddie Bruma will work further on the draft constitution. The definitive version must be submitted to the National Assembly on 31 March. Another commission will prepare organic laws based on the constitution.

Because of the strong indications that Army leader Bouterse will be the first president after the adoption of the new constitution, the spokesmen on Surinamese affairs of the government parties in the Second Chamber have given assurances that they will follow very critically how the appointment is carried out and what power he will be able to wield. Weisglas (People's Party for Freedom and Democracy) and Aarts (Christian Democratic Appeal) are assuming already that the new president will be elected through democratic procedures and that for this reason there is no reason to be skeptical in advance. "But the further elaboration of constitutional ground rules and the method of appointment must make it clear whether the fear of a civilian dictatorship is justified after the military dictatorship has shed his uniform."

For Christian Democratic Appeal spokesman Aarts the departure of Bouterse has never been a precondition for the normalization of relations with Suriname. [paragraph continues]

"However, in the last few months the events in eastern Suriname -- and thus the way in which human rights are being dealt with -- have made me think. If the president's powers are to be increased, the question of who is to be president presents an important problem," Aarts said diplomatically.

In the Supreme Council (consisting of political parties, the trade union movement, industry and commerce, and the military) there have been negotiations that have gone on for a year about the draft constitution. In these, a tacit compromise is said to have been reached on the choice of Bouterse as the first new-style president. The political leaders will immediately be able to keep a promise in this direction, given the fact that in free elections they are bound to win three-quarters of the seats. The election of a president must take place by a two-thirds parliamentary majority. For this purpose Bouterse is reported to have made unexpected democratic concessions, such as free and secret parliamentary elections.

The draft constitution was approved Wednesday by the National Assembly. According to the draft the president is responsible for the formation of the cabinet and is in charge of the preparation of the government program. As head of the so-called Council of State he coordinates all the activities of this top advisory and supervisory body in which the most important branches of society will be represented. The president will be the supreme commander of the Armed Forces and he will be in charge of foreign policy. He will be able to appoint, suspend, and dismiss all persons in prominent government posts. This would, it seems, also include ministers.

These powers indicate how far the executive power of the new Surinamese president will stretch, although he is accountable to parliament. But the rules that have been drafted must make clear how independent and effective this parliamentary hold will be on the president's actions. In this connection the position of the military authorities is of crucial importance.

The draft reads at present: "The Military Authorities represent the Army and will exert joint leadership over the activities of the people with regard to the defense of sovereignty, independence, and the promotion of national development. The composition of the Military Authorities will be laid down in greater detail in separate laws. The Military Authorities have the task of guaranteeing the necessary conditions so that Surinamese society can realize and consolidate a peaceful transition to a more democratic and socially fairer society.

"Under the leadership of the Army through the people's militias the people will be able to participate directly in the defense of the country. The regulations governing this will be laid down in a separate law."

"Under the leadership of the Army" thus means "under the leadership of the president," for he is the Army supreme commander. It can be deduced from the text of the draft constitution that the role of the Military Authorities and the Army in Surinamese society will remain a "guiding role" to a striking extent. The extent to which it will be possible to exercise control over the Military Authorities and the operations of the Army will be the subject of further draft legislation.

DIPLOMATS BRIEFED ON 'NEW' INSURGENCY PLANS

FL181638 Hilversum International Service in English 1030 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] The Surinamese Foreign Minister Jules Wijdenbosch has summoned the Dutch and French temporary charges d'affaires in Paramaribo in an effort to make sure that France does not allow members of the Surinamese resistance to enter Suriname via French Guiana.

Mr Wijdenbosch said that resistance fighters were planning new actions, and he wants to keep the Netherlands abreast of the developments because it is possible that individuals carrying Dutch passports will be involved in the actions.

Mr Wijdenbosch charged that the operations were designed to obstruct democratization in the country.

In Suriname, a former Dutch colony located in South America, a commission of jurists is elaborating a new constitution, designed to lay down the framework for political parties, the government, and the president.

BRIEFS

SURALCO MANAGER APPOINTED -- Mr (Henk Cromdine) has been appointed general manager of the Suriname Aluminum Company, Suralco, as of April 1st. His appointment is connected with the departure of the current general manager, Mr (Stevens), who leaves for the United States of North America. Mr (Henk Cromdine) is the second Surinamese to hold the highest position at the 70-year-old Suralco Company. The first Surinamese was Mr (Heindefries), who resigned when he became governor of Suriname. [Text] [Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 18 Mar 87 FL]